AMENDMENTS
1 - 21

Draft opinion
Nikos Androulakis
(PE660.190v01-00)

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2019, Section X – European External Action Service
(2020/2149(DEC))
Amendment 1
Peter van Dalen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

1. Notes growing instability and the rise of unprecedented challenges in the international environment, which increased demands on the Union to act as a global player; highlights the European External Action Service’s (EEAS) central role in conducting the external policy of the Union; notes that the EEAS’s enhanced role has not been underpinned by a corresponding staff increase; calls for sufficient human resources to be made available in order not to put at risk the Union’s effectiveness on the international scene;

Amendment
1. Notes growing instability and the rise of unprecedented challenges in the international environment, which increased demands on the Union to act as a global player; highlights the European External Action Service’s (EEAS) central role in conducting the external policy of the Union, together with the Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief, and in cooperation with the European Parliament's Intergroup on Freedom of Religion or Belief and Religious Tolerance; notes that the EEAS’s enhanced role has not been underpinned by a corresponding staff increase; calls for sufficient human resources to be made available, particularly through greater efficiency, in order not to put at risk the Union’s effectiveness on the international scene;

Or. nl

Amendment 2
Jérôme Rivière, Thierry Mariani, Jaak Madison, Lars Patrick Berg, Susanna Ceccardi

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

1. Notes growing instability and the rise of unprecedented challenges in the international environment, which increased demands on the Union to act as a global player; highlights the European External Action Service’s (EEAS) central role in conducting the external policy of the Union; notes that the EEAS’s enhanced role has not been underpinned by a corresponding staff increase; calls

Amendment
1. States that national diplomatic services and embassies are the legitimate representatives of the Member States in connection with fair and balanced international relations; emphasises that it is not the job of the EEAS to take their place; calls therefore for a significant reduction in EEAS appropriations and staff; calls also for the EEAS to end its recruitment and calls on Member States

AM\1220181EN.docx 3/13 PE662.009v01-00
for sufficient human resources to be made available in order not to put at risk the Union’s effectiveness on the international scene;

and their diplomatic services to react accordingly;

Amendment 3
Ernest Urtasun
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

2. Notes the persisting gender and geographical imbalances within the EEAS staff, despite positive trends in recent years; reiterates the importance of ensuring a balanced distribution of staff in terms of gender and geographical origin within different categories and grades, particularly at middle and senior management levels; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the Heads of Delegation; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances;

Or. fr

Or. en
Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

2. Notes the persisting gender and geographical imbalances within the EEAS staff, despite positive trends in recent years; reiterates the importance of ensuring a balanced distribution of staff in terms of gender and geographical origin within different categories and grades, particularly at middle and senior management levels; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the Heads of Delegation; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances;

Amendment

2. Notes the persisting gender and geographical imbalances within the EEAS staff, despite positive trends in recent years; reiterates the importance of ensuring a balanced distribution of staff in terms of gender and geographical origin within different categories and grades, particularly at middle and senior management levels; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the Heads of Delegation; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances; highlights the fact that an improvement of the geographical and gender balance in the EEAS would contribute to improving the Union’s coherence in external action initiatives;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Nikos Androulakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

2. Notes the persisting gender and geographical imbalances within the EEAS staff, despite positive trends in recent years; reiterates the importance of ensuring a balanced distribution of staff in terms of gender and geographical origin within different categories and grades, particularly at middle and senior management levels; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the Heads of Delegation; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances; and calls for increased transparency in the decisions on the appointments of middle and senior management; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the
imbalances; Heads of Delegation and senior management levels; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances; Or. en

Amendment 6
Peter van Dalen

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

2. Notes the persisting gender and geographical imbalances within the EEAS staff, despite positive trends in recent years; reiterates the importance of ensuring a balanced distribution of staff in terms of gender and geographical origin within different categories and grades, particularly at middle and senior management levels; points also to persisting over-representation of some Member States’ diplomats among the Heads of Delegation; calls for further efforts to address those imbalances; Or. nl

Amendment 7
Urmas Paet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2a (new)

Draft opinion

2a. Emphasises the need to ensure the coherence of EU’s foreign policy, there is also a need to provide necessary resources for a successful implementation of an efficient EU Security and Defence Policy; Or. en

Amendment 8
Ioan-Răzvan Bogdan

PE662.009v01-00 6/13 AM\1220181EN.docx
Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

3. Stresses the importance of continuing to improve the rationalisation and modernisation of the financial and administrative management; welcomes the ongoing discussions on the EEAS budget simplifications and calls on modernising and simplifying the EEAS administration, also through full implementation of the “Innovative 2019” project;

Amendment

3. Stresses the importance of continuing to improve the rationalisation and modernisation of the financial and administrative management; welcomes the ongoing discussions on the EEAS budget simplifications; points out in this regard the need for the EEAS to continue its efforts in order to achieve the simplification of the budgets lines; calls on modernising and simplifying the EEAS administration, also through full implementation of the “Innovative 2019” project;

Or. en

Amendment 9
Jérôme Rivière, Thierry Mariani, Jaak Madison, Lars Patrick Berg

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

3. Stresses the importance of continuing to improve the rationalisation and modernisation of the financial and administrative management; welcomes the ongoing discussions on the EEAS budget simplifications and calls on modernising and simplifying the EEAS administration, also through full implementation of the “Innovative 2019” project;

Amendment

3. Stresses the importance of continuing to improve the rationalisation and modernisation of the financial and administrative management; takes note of the ongoing discussions on the EEAS budget simplifications and calls on modernising and simplifying the EEAS administration, also through full implementation of the “Innovative 2019” project;

Or. fr

Amendment 10
Nikos Androulakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)
3a. Stresses the significance of the culture of security and safety across all entities by ensuring that the EEAS has adequate personnel, procedures, infrastructure, tools (including IT) and budget to perform its critical and essential functions in the event of unexpected or crisis situations; calls on reducing the security risks, especially related to cybersecurity by increasing safety measures protecting the EEAS’s digital infrastructure from external threats and attacks;

Or. en

Amendment 11
Vladimír Bilčík

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Amendment

4. Stresses the need to communicate strategically, to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China and in Russia, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources; stresses that strategic communication must include fighting disinformation about the COVID-19 pandemic;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Jérôme Rivière, Thierry Mariani, Jaak Madison, Lars Patrick Berg
Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Amendment
4. Underlines the fact that the supposed fight against foreign disinformation is in fact simply further undermining the right to information; is concerned at EEAS initiatives in this area, which seek to restrict freedom of information, in particular in the digital field;

Or. fr

Amendment 13
David Lega

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China, and the Middle East, particularly Iran, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Amendment
4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China and the Middle East, particularly Iran, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Ernest Urtasun
on behalf of the Greens/EFA Group

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4
Draft opinion

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Amendment

4. Stresses the need to fight malicious interference including disinformation; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the creation of a dedicated StratCom Task Force on interference emanating from China, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Emmanuel Maurel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to state sponsored disinformation originating in China, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Amendment

4. Stresses the need to fight foreign propaganda and to expose disinformation and malicious foreign influence; underlines the importance of the EEAS Strategic Communication Task Force and calls for the broadening of its mandate, including in relation to China-sponsored disinformation, and providing it with further necessary financial and human resources;

Or. fr

Amendment 16
Petras Auštrevičius, Klemen Grošelj, Javier Nart, Ilhan Kyuchyuk

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. Notes the need to strengthen the EU Delegations in the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkan
countries and enable them to assist these countries in completing the reforms and to more effectively communicate how the EU is helping citizens there; stresses the necessity of developing more horizontal links and fostering cooperation among the EU Delegations in the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans regions, particularly establishing regular exchanges of information and expertise and other successful working approaches, in order to provide a best possible assistance to the neighbouring countries engaged in pro-democratic and pro-European reforms;

Or. en

Amendment 17
Emmanuel Maurel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5a (new)

Draft opinion

5a. Notes that a host of EEAS notices and documents are available in English only; notes also that working meetings are held without interpretation; calls for the EEAS to abide by the principles, rights and obligations enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights; calls accordingly for the EEAS to provide the human resources needed to abide by multilingualism by increasing the number of translators and interpreters;

Or. fr

Amendment 18
Nikos Androulakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5a (new)
5a. Regrets that only 1 recommendation out of 8 of the 2016 report of the European Court of Auditors on the European External Action Service's management of its buildings around the world has been fully implemented and 3 have been implemented in most respects; calls for the swift full implementation of all the remaining recommendations;

Or. en

Amendment 19
Vangelis Meimarakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. Notes that the EEAS carries a vital role in ensuring the coherence of the Union’s foreign policy; also highlights the need to provide the necessary resources for a successful implementation of an efficient EU Common Security and Defence Policy;

Or. en

Amendment 20
Urmas Paet

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. Emphasises the growing need for a coherent updated EU-Arctic policy; notes that the new NDICI instrument opens up opportunities to finance the Arctic region;

Or. en
Amendment 21
Vangelis Meimarakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5b. Calls on the EEAS to create posts for local agents responsible for reporting on legislative work in countries of strategic interest, particularly accession countries and those of the Eastern Partnership, in order to increase the Union’s understanding of the neighbourhood and its approximation to the acquis; calls on the EEAS to take action to resolve the problems leading to the procurement errors identified and to prevent future infringements of the relevant rules;

Or. en